

# FOCUS

Best Wishes for 2007

Lib Dem 46%  
Con 39%

Votes cast at the last District Council elections. Labour have no councillors left here.

Only the Lib Dems can beat the Tories in Uttlesford!

Lab just 5%

Green 1%

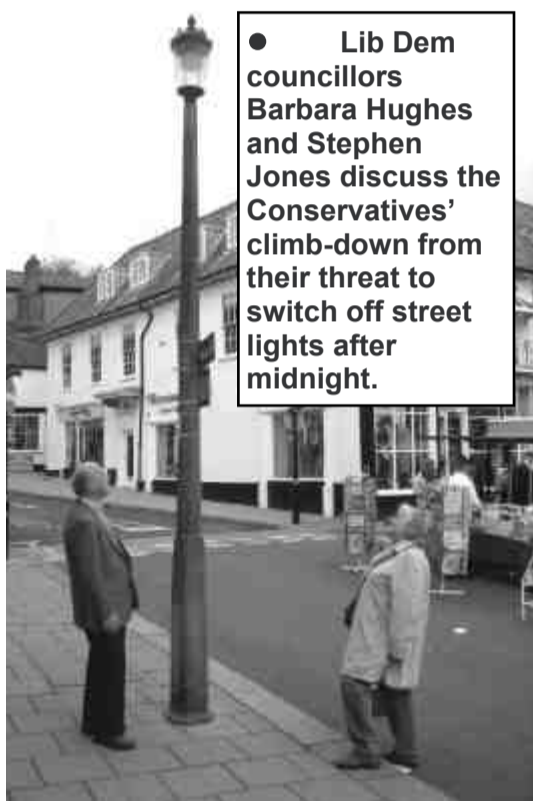


Jan/Feb 2007

Edited by Councillors Richard Freeman, Barbara Hughes and Stephen Jones

www.saffronwaldenlibdems.org.uk

## Legal Challenge To Tory Street Light Switch Off



● Lib Dem councillors Barbara Hughes and Stephen Jones discuss the Conservatives' climb-down from their threat to switch off street lights after midnight.

Conservative-controlled Essex County Council is backtracking away from its threat to switch off Saffron Walden's street lights after midnight. The climb-down follows a threat of legal action by Lib Dem-controlled Uttlesford District Council and the Town Council.

Lib Dem Councillor Barbara Hughes comments "The Tories' plan would make part of the town centre CCTV system inoperable and might encourage some people to drive instead of walking, so the effect on crime and energy consumption may well be bad."

"The Conservatives have made no effort to research the best way to reduce energy consumed by street lighting. No wonder the Institute of Lighting Engineers does not support their poorly thought-out plans."

## Bridge End Gardens

The restoration of Bridge End Garden received a special mention at the Guardian Public Service Awards - making it to the top three positions in its category.

The restoration has been funded by Liberal Democrat-controlled Uttlesford District and Saffron Walden Town Councils - together with



the Heritage Lottery, the Linbury Trust and others.

Councillor Richard Freeman comments "The Lib Dems are committed to working in partnership with others in order to protect our heritage."

## Spot The Difference

In addition to having the lowest Council Tax in Essex, Liberal Democrat-controlled Uttlesford District Council has reserves of over £3,000,000.

In stark contrast, Conservative-controlled Essex County Council has recently announced plans to slash mobile library services. This follows draconian cuts to the County Council youth service. When it comes to meals-on-wheels for our senior citizens, Conservative-controlled Essex is the highest-charging County in England and Wales.

● Who do you think is giving value for money?



## Recycling Rate Reaches 50% With Wheelie Bins

In November 2005, 24.7% of waste in Uttlesford was recycled. In November 2006 the figure was 50.1% - more than double what it was before the introduction of the new three wheelie bin system.

If the present rate of recycling continues, Uttlesford District will become one of the top ten Councils in the country for recycling.

### Significant Reduction

According to the Audit Commission, the overall effect of introducing the new wheelie bin system is a £1,000,000-plus saving in the cost of sending waste to be buried in



● Richard Freeman, Barbara Hughes and Stephen Jones say "The new wheelie bins have doubled recycling locally."

the ground, which represents "a significant reduction in future revenue costs."

Councillor Stephen Jones comments "The new system and the enthusiastic support of local residents has

doubled the amount we recycle. This helps the environment and represents a big saving on your future Council Tax. Liberal Democrats care for the Environment and your pocket."

Liberal Democrats - Standing Up For Our Town

# Tackling Local Housing Need



Local Lib Dems are committed to tackling the need for more affordable local housing. There are many people on the Council's waiting list looking for housing. Whilst there is a need to build some new housing to meet local needs, there is also a great need to use the housing that is already available.

In order to tackle the problem, Liberal Democrat-controlled Uttlesford Council has launched a scheme to enable empty homes to be leased to a housing association, who in turn could access regional housing money to renovate the property and rent it out.

Liberal Democrat Councillor Barbara Hughes says: "Too many houses are standing empty. They blight communities, attract crime and devalue neighbouring properties. I am delighted that Uttlesford is taking action to make empty homes available to those who need housing. We are also looking to see if there is any unused Council-owned land that can be released for lower cost housing."

Local Liberal Democrats wants to see empty homes rented out to local people in need of housing. Over 200 people are in immediate housing need in this area: the Liberal Democrats are looking at every means available to give them a decent home, in which to live.

## Here to help

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**Please call us if you think we can help.**



# Save Money And Help Save The Planet



Liberal Democrats are working to promote energy conservation to cut CO2 emissions. There are many simple things that you can do, which will save you money, and help to reduce global warming.

## Join us to fight climate chaos



Climate change threatens everyone, from polar bears to humans alike. We are the last generation that can stop climate chaos from reaching a catastrophic tipping point. The Liberal Democrats are determined to make sure our politicians do not let us down. Join our campaign today by returning this form.



- Replace your old boiler. It could reduce your water heating bills by between £190-£240 per year. It could also reduce your carbon emissions by as much as a tonne.
  - Insulate your hot water tank with a jacket at least 75mm (3 inches) thick. Doing so could save you between £10-£20 a year, and reduce your carbon emissions by 150 kg a year.
  - Fill your cavity walls with insulation. It could save you between £70-£120 per year, and reduce your carbon emissions by up to a tonne.
- A British Gas-funded scheme offers Council Tax rebates worth up to £75 each to local residents who install energy-efficient measures in their homes. Call Uttlesford District Council on 01799 510510 for more details.
- The Council has been declared a highly commended runner-up in the prestigious National Energy Efficiency Awards.

### Help us protect our planet from climate chaos

- I enclose a donation cheque to the "Liberal Democrats" for:
  - £100  £50  £25  Other: £ \_\_\_\_\_
- I can help deliver some leaflets in my area.
- I will display a poster for the Liberal Democrats at election time.

A donation of £6 or more entitles you to membership of the Lib Dems. Please tick here if you are already a member or do not wish to join:

**Return to: Liberal Democrats,  
 Freepost CL2702, Stansted  
 CM24 8BR.**



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